

March 30, 1971

Problem #2 Military

Ethnic Studies 390

You are a member of a newly formed internal third world organization in Hawaii. The organization is composed of primarily students from various ethnic groups, all of whom are committed to building a lasting anti-military and anti-war campaign in the interest of the third world peoples the world over. Examination of Huli #1 and Huli #2 publications of your organization reveals a pervasive military commitment of people's resources to the war in Asia as well as to suppression of rebellions in Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican, and Asian communities on the mainland. Dark peoples are used and have been used in the past to fight against brothers and sisters which America's imperial system defines as enemies.

To facilitate organizational development members of the organization have been assigned to several work areas to explore certain problems which have already presented themselves for challenging political work. The program for the organization is aimed to be long-run and broad in dimension. The ultimate goal is to free Hawaii of military use and its people from continued complicity with racist and genocidal wars.

Each of the work groups within the organization has come up with a number of political problems:

Work group #1

Because of the recent escalation of the war in Indo-China and an anticipated wave of black rebellions during the summer, the word from informed sources is that national guard and reservist units from Hawaii will be activated in August of this year. Our work group has established contact with a number of local young men in these units who have taken to a more sympathetic view of Richard Tanimura's move to Sweden in the 1968 call-up. These men tend to be receptive to a civil disobedience approach because of their religious experiences. They are middle class in mentality with memberships in the Buddhist and Christian faiths. Indications are that some ministers who supported Richard and other GI's in past sanctuaries would support whatever act of resistance decided upon by these men now; however, it is evident that work needs to be done with other ministers and members of the congregations. There is talk already of regular leafleting in churches, and plans for sanctuaries for these local men who seek the broadest possible community support.

This work group has also discovered at least ten

local fellows on AWOL usually frequenting poolhalls in Haleiwa. These guys tend to be either drop outs from high schools who joined up in the military because of the lack of any alternatives to the promise of travel, manhood (remember Fujii) and security which the military offered. After several months of basic these men never returned when given leave time before the permanent assignments. Jobs are not available in the area. Drugs are so much of the culture created. The dehumanizing experiences in the military are the primary reason for going AWOL, but there is some sense of the inhumanness involved in this Vietnam war.

An organizational strategy meeting is being planned a week from now when the following questions are on the agenda:

ideology behind civil disobedience (Thoreau)
A. What kind of ideological basis could possibly develop for men in the guards and in the reserves as well as their supporters, and what can be done to prevent their use to suppress third world peoples? Discuss the possible base of support and the program to build this up to the summer.

middle class base. State vs fed rights.
B. A member of the organization has come up with a tax withholding proposal to reach a more middle class support group for general anti-war activity. She proposes that a petition be circulated from offices manned by students for a period of approximately one year. The petition would state that if 2/3 of the voting population of Hawaii's third world community agreed to withhold federal taxes to the amount of 70% of all taxes (the amount required for military expenditure) each petitioner would do the same. 50% of the amount withheld will be sent to a common fund created by our organization to be used for social needs of the presently military employed personnel in places like the Pearl Harbor and the rest for social needs of poor people in Hawaii. The rest will be kept by the tax payers. Discuss what possibilities this project has as a collective act of civil disobedience against the war and also the tactical organizational and strategy problems which would be foreseeable.

C. What kind of political program can be developed for men on AWOL whose numbers are growing in the islands? Should they be encouraged to turn themselves in? Are there any suggested means for building supportive local underground, or to develop some collective efforts where political education and political action would emerge?

dealing w/ diff. grps of people in military
D. Could there be a program developed by the organization to coordinate these above mentioned activities, for a longer termed direction? If so, discuss it and also in the context of problems cited below.

Work group #2

This work group is composed of students who are inclined to do organizing which relates to high school and college students. They are presently in study groups in various Oahu high schools and discovered that recruiters come regularly during the spring and that a larger number of seniors from more rural areas tend to enlist or get drafted. Political consciousness is low among high school students, but this is changing. Many of them want actions in schools to break the routine. They want alternatives to the draft and have asked for speakers for information. Some of the students are aware of resistance activities like burning draft files and draft cards and they tend to be fascinated by the ideas. At the university of Hawaii and certain community colleges, the students are more inclined to purify the university from all relations to the military. Recruiters come, war related contractors come and ROTC remains on campus. Moreover, many of the university students tend toward conscientious objection.

A discussion is planned for a week from now to explore the possible actions set out in the problems posed:

- A. What would be the nature of a counseling center program on the draft for these students and what can be done to develop the political consciousness of students generally from such a program?
(Be sure to get into the mechanics of counseling, etc. and be evaluative of how this center can be manned and sustained as a vital political entity without being merely "way to get out of the draft" service center).

Should the center serve only third world people or should whites be served? If so, would there be any difference in approach?

What would be the role of women students in this development?

- B. Study groups in high schools and colleges have requested background information on draft resistance, confrontation with draft boards, confrontations with university personnel who are part of the military-industrial-intellectual complex, and confrontations with high school recruiters, induction center personnel and draft board members. Present this background material in this organizational meeting and be descriptive as well as evaluative of this past practice in line with the broader objectives of this organization.

*Counseling =
political - looking for
info - do not try to
convert them to
change system -
first - change
counseling into a
political base.*

*to what happens -
political
confrontation
consequences*

Work group #3

actual case

Several members of the organization have been working in conjunction with the Black Cultural Center of Hawaii which provides in part legal services for black GI's in disciplinary matters. They report that the pattern of racist practices in all military installations is clear. There are always several lifers who are black in each unit with the rest of the men usually here in Hawaii for less than six months on their way to South East Asia. The black GI's are usually just out of basic and only more recently from the ghetto. In Kaneohe the Marine Corp is extremely sensitive to any meeting of black GI's only.

In one recently reported case which is set for discussion in the organization, a black marine was being processed for not getting out of the rack on time and for disrespect of lawful authority. Actually, the GI turns out to be a key organizer of black GIs. In recent months he has been calling meetings off base, reading material on black history, developing access to Black Panther materials through local sources. As a consequence of his developing political consciousness he has rapped to quite a few brothers. Only yesterday he was called in for giving the power (sign) to brothers on base and for talking about selective treatment of blacks when it comes to KP and other shit details.

The word is that there will soon be a court-martial for the GI.

Discuss:

educ. black GI's & local people (a) What kind of organizing work should develop with marines and other black and third world GI's in the islands? What do you think of developing GI houses in obscure parts of Oahu where regular P.E. sessions could be provided on such subjects like basic GI rights, racism and the war in Indo-China, Hawaii's history in the context of revolutionary struggle, etc. Discuss problems in effectuating any collective effort in work with GI's generally.

2nd world unity among GI's & local people (b) What would be the role of a radical lawyer in a special court martial for what seems to be clearly a political case? Discuss how non-lawyers can help change local lawyers in the process of political trial work? Would a defense team be helpful in developing evidence for the case as well as for developing community support against racist practices?

Work group #4

Sandy

One member of the organization recently returned from the Big island and Maui to investigate the conflict between hippies and the local rural communities. What was discovered was a gang of local youths called the Primo Warriors who are making plans for more organized attack on hippies and newly arrived residents in the islands. Recently there has been more talk of arming themselves and many of the gang members already have begun to develop storage of amunition supplies from Pohaulua training areas wherethe military has not been to careful after drills every month.

Within the organization itself several members have discussed armed struggle as a necessity in the long run strategy for decolonization in Hawaii. These members are excited to hear of developments on the outside islands and have demanded a fair and open discussion about guerilla warfare. A committee has been consequently been established to suit the demand in the context of what to do with this developing rebellion and resistance by the Primo Warriors. Inasmuch as the local residents do not take too openly to support the Warriors, the fact is that many of the residents are sympathetic to their work. Many residents are concerned about the ifflux of the haoles and the wipe out of local peoples' culture and life style.

A. What lessons can be drawn from the development guerrilla bands in other third world countries? Of what relevance is this to the developments in Hawaii presently and in the foreseeable 20 years?

have to adapt from specific condition

B. Would the prospects of guerrilla style tactics in a greatly modified form be a means to developing political responses in rural areas should conditions change economically in Hawaii?

Of what significance is martial law declared in Hawaii if the Guerrillas started kidnapping more powerful and prominent haoles in the islands for vacations?

- ① good way to get ransom
- ② could provide more people to join rebellion - but also more would nationalize situation - response.

(Note: remember that all of the above problems are difficult to hypotheticals and are not intended to portray more around life as it actually seems to be. We do not advocate any of the political actions either, but seek only an appreciation of various methods of social change as a minimum objective).

① Hawaii 20 yrs from now cooler will probably outnumber local people. = more difficult to begin an offensive.

② military power is all over Hawaii land controlled by military

③ Rural pop. is small - Islands - need to give support to guerrilla style tactics

aspects of prob. are confronted in previous questions

are these parallels in guerrilla tactics & confrontation politics.

④ extent of colonization is far-advanced in Hawaii - people are comfortable etc.

Readings assigned:

1. Essay on Civil Disobedience *Ghandi's Thinking*
(Thoreau)
2. Letter from Birmingham Jail *opposed to Marxist-Lenin Dialectical Materialism*
objs. + tactics used - SNCC period.
3. Ultra-Resistance - '67-'69 *developments in Resistance*
On Resistance-
Resistance: From Mood to Strategy *- critical view, needs to be*
made part of on-going movement.
Resistance in Hawaii: program.
4. A Chronological History of the National Guard *- develop pattern*
on how they are used.
5. Campus Reconnaissance *- poor glimpse of univ. confrontation.*
6. Military Intelligence: On racism in military
7. The Role of the Radical Lawyer and teacher of law.
quest. #3
8. A chronological history of the Black soldier in America
9. General Principles of Guerrilla Warfare

Also required reading:

1. Huli #1
2. Huli #2
3. For military work group: Courts as Political Battlegrounds:
theoretical basis for political case